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SIR:

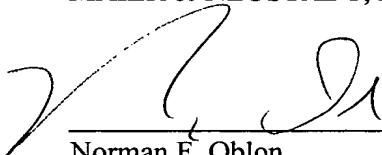
Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

1. Response to Restriction Requirement

Our check in the amount of \$ -0- is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF : :

Vitaliy LIVSHITS, et al. : GROUP ART UNIT: 1652

SERIAL NO.: 09/459,573 : :

FILED: DECEMBER 13, 1999 : EXAMINER: D. STEADMAN

FOR: METHODS FOR PRODUCING L-AMINO ACID

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Responsive to the Official Action mailed August 31, 2001, the Applicants elect, with traverse, Group I, Claims 1-3, 7, and 11-13 for further prosecution.

REMARKS

The Office has restricted this application as follows under 35 U.S.C. §121:

Group I:	Claims 1-3, 7, and 11-13 drawn to an <i>Escherichia</i> bacterium expressing the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:10 and having an ability to produce an L-amino acid;
Group II:	Claim 1-7 and 10-13, drawn to an <i>Escherichia</i> bacterium expressing the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:12 and having an ability to produce an L-amino acid;
Group III:	Claim 1, 3, 6-8, and 11-13, drawn to an <i>Escherichia</i> bacterium expressing the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:14 and having an ability to produce an L-amino acid;